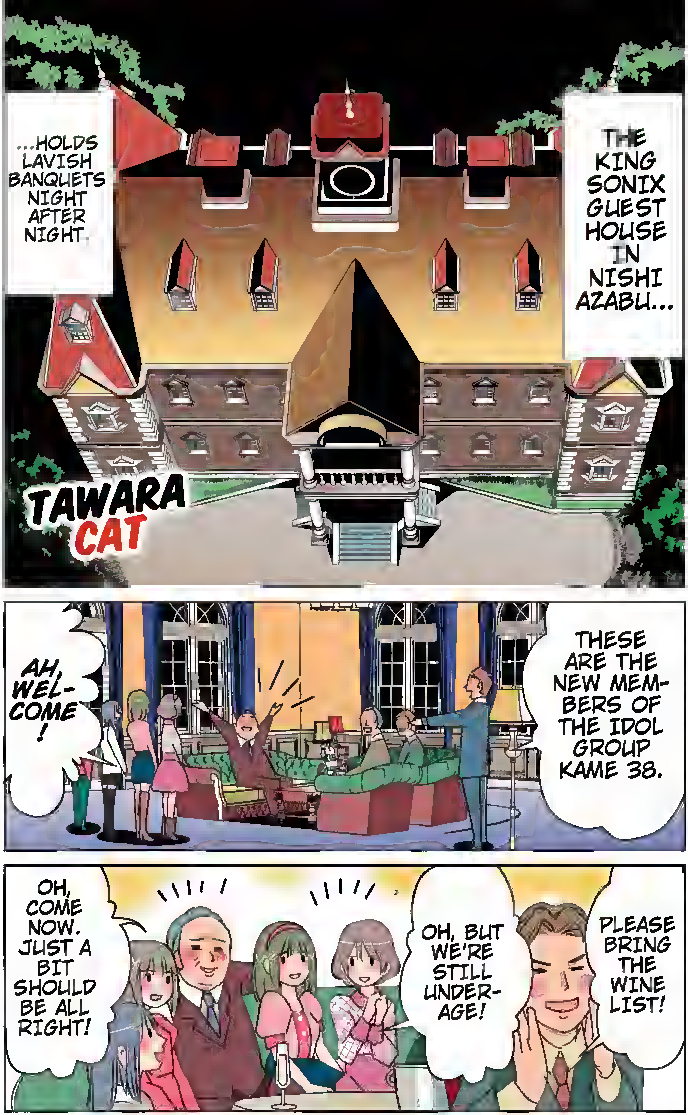

THE KING SONIX GUEST HOUSE IN NISHI AZABU...
...HOLDS LAVISH BANQUETS NIGHT AFTER NIGHT.
TAWARA CAT
THESE ARE THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE IDOL GROUP KAME 38.
AH, WELCOME!
PLEASE BRING THE WINE LIST!
OH, BUT WE'RE STILL UNDERAGE!
OH, COME NOW. JUST A BIT SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT!

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.

MangaBox

TAWARA CAT

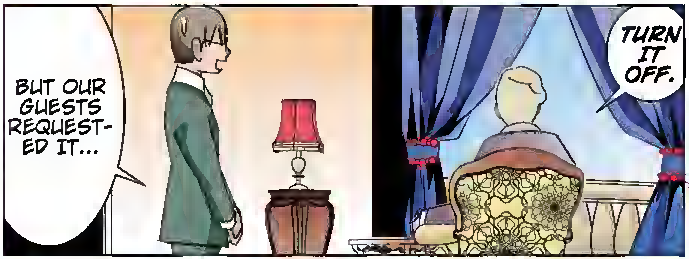
TAWARA 37: THE CMO'S GREAT CHRISTMAS PLAN

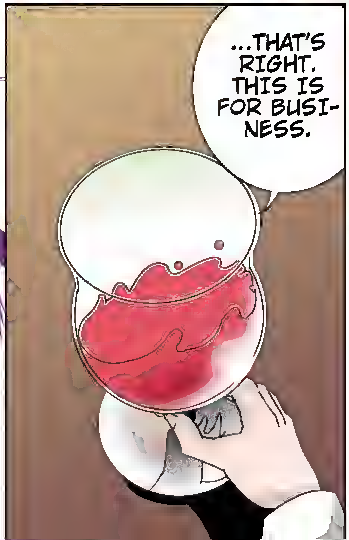
TORAKO HIDAKA

Translation by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Alexandra Swanson
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN, Inc.

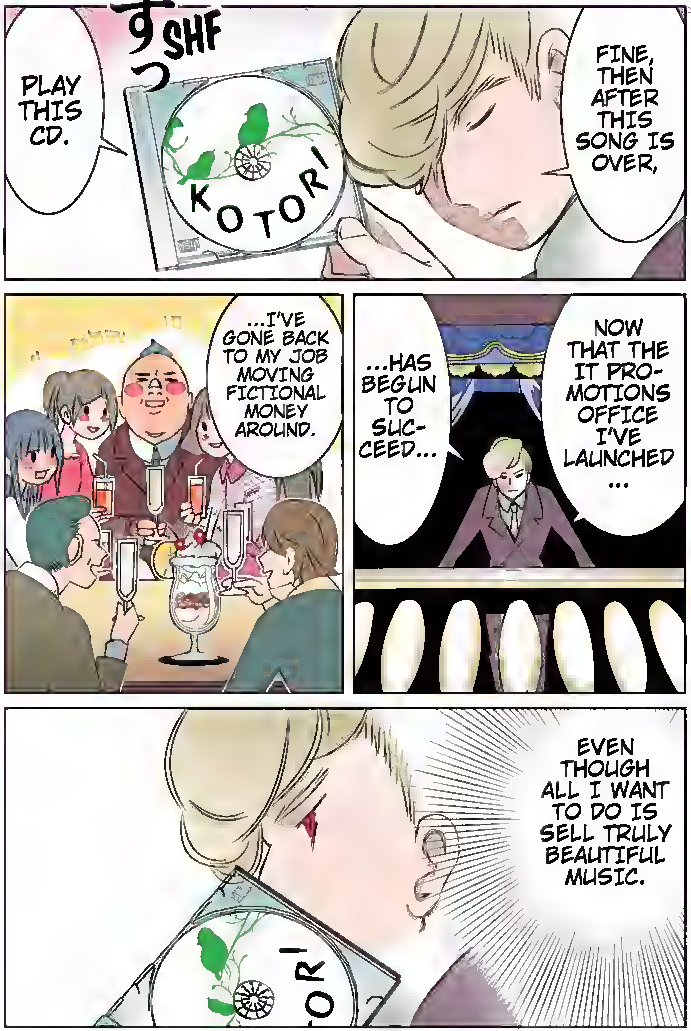
ONCE UPON A TIME, I WOULD HAVE BEEN SEATED IN THE CENTER OF THAT GROUP.
BUT NOW...
AH, CMO...
TANAKA, WHAT IS THAT TERRIBLE NOISE?
THE BUILDING, THE WOMEN, AND THE ALCOHOL ARE ALL PREPARED...
...THE MONEY IS FLOW-ING.

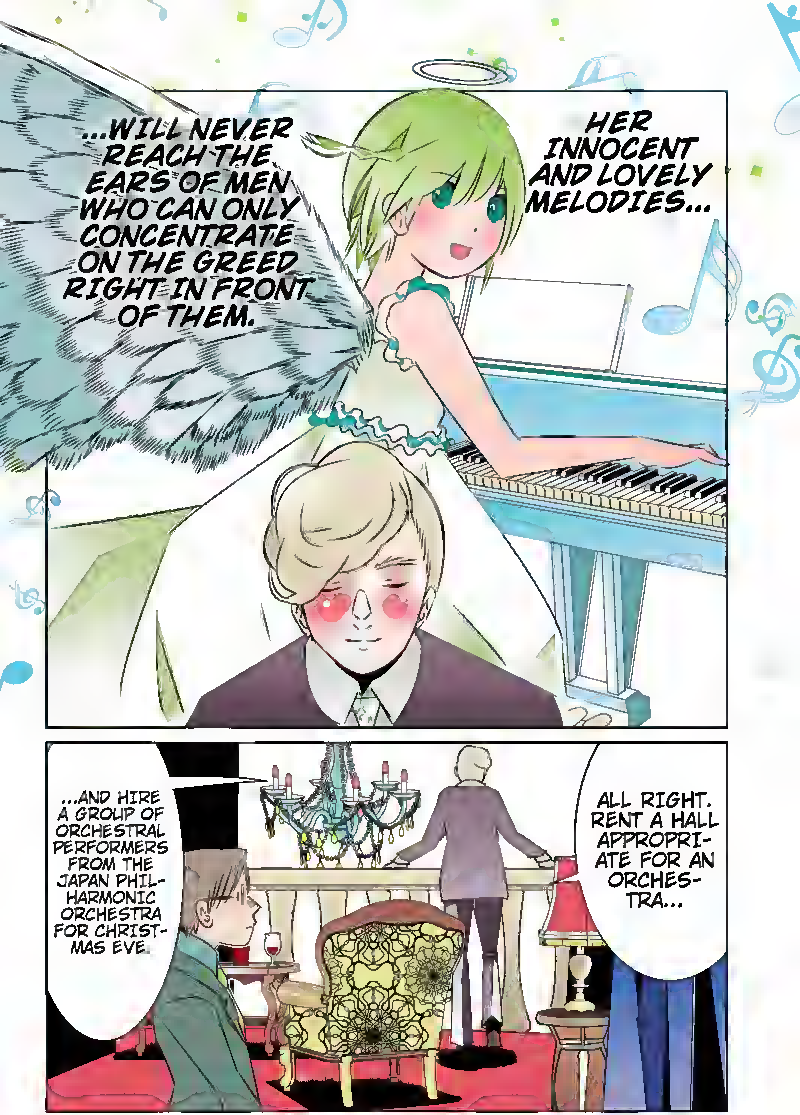
"HOLY JINGLE PURE NIGHT ♥ LOVE"
IT'S KAME 38'S NEW SONG...


BUT OUR GUESTS REQUEST-ED IT...
TURN IT OFF.

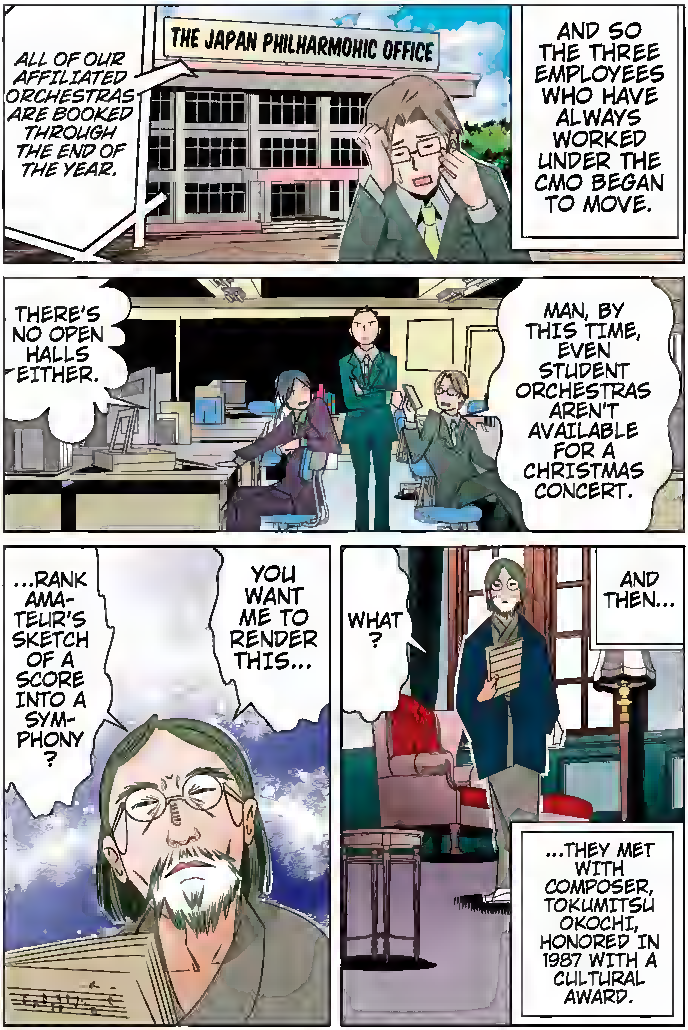

...THAT'S RIGHT. THIS IS FOR BUSI-NESS.

AND GETTING THOSE GIRLS ATTACHED TO SPONSORS...
おんな
CHEERS!
...IS THE REASON TONIGHT'S PARTY.

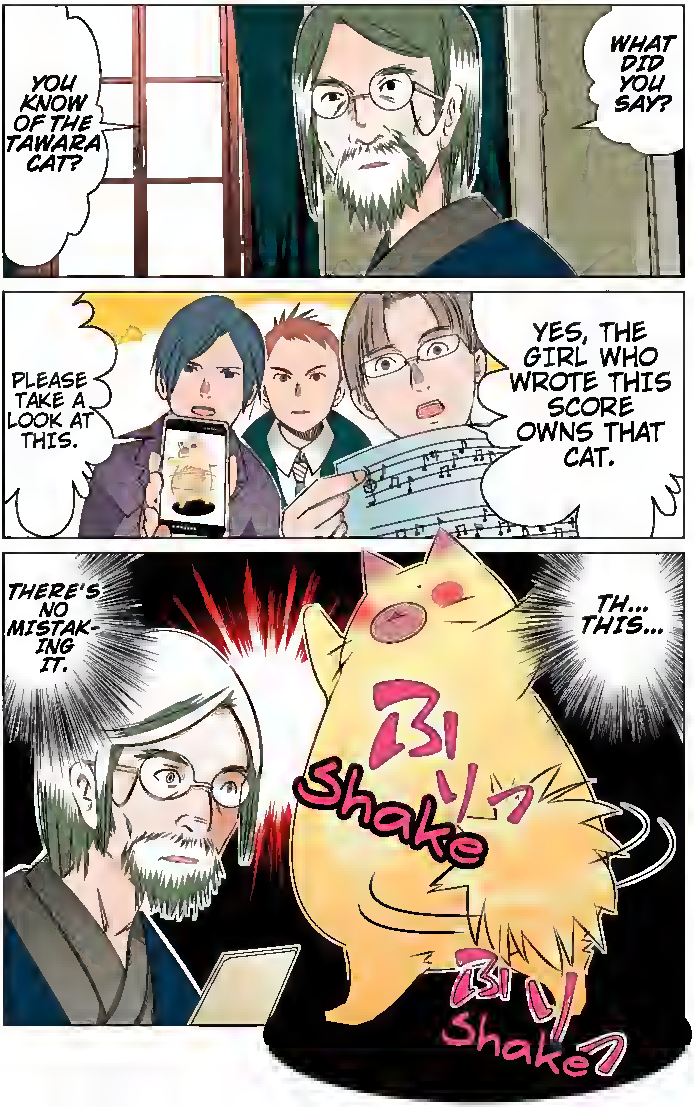

すっSHF
KOTORI
PLAY THIS CD.
FINE, THEN AFTER THIS SONG IS OVER,
...I'VE GONE BACK TO MY JOB MOVING FICTIONAL MONEY AROUND.
...HAS BEGUN TO SUC-CEED...
NOW THAT THE IT PRO-MOTIONS OFFICE I'VE LAUNCHED ...
EVEN THOUGH ALL I WANT TO DO IS SELL TRULY BEAUTIFUL MUSIC.


HER INNOCENT AND LOVELY MELODIES...
...WILL NEVER REACH THE EARS OF MEN WHO CAN ONLY CONCENTRATE ON THE GREED RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEM.
ALL RIGHT. RENT A HALL APPROPRIATE FOR AN ORCHESTRA...
...AND HIRE A GROUP OF ORCHESTRAL PERFORMERS FROM THE JAPAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA FOR CHRISTMAS EVE.

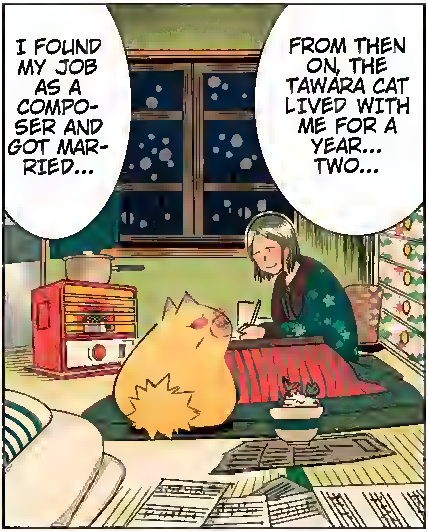
AND SEARCH FOR A COMPOSER WHO CAN ARRANGE A SYMPHONY.
AH. YES. AND THE CONCERT HALL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LARGE.
SHE WILL BE THE ONLY INVITED GUEST.
I WILL GIVE HER THE GIFT OF HER SONG, ARRANGED ORCHESTRALLY, ON CHRISTMAS EVE.
KOTORI

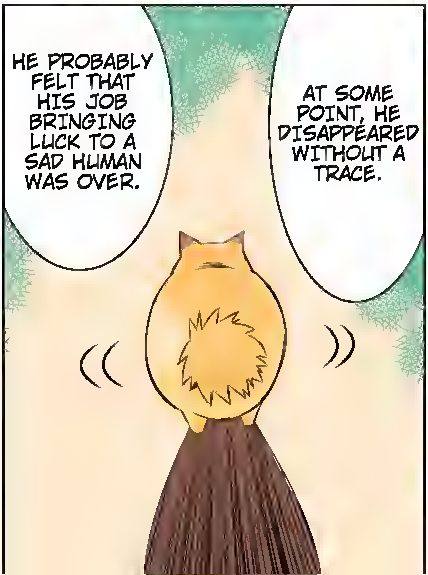

THE JAPAN PHILHARMONIC OFFICE
ALL OF OUR AFFILIATED ORCHESTRAS ARE BOOKED THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR.
AND SO THE THREE EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE ALWAYS WORKED UNDER THE CMO BEGAN TO MOVE.
THERE'S NO OPEN HALLS EITHER.
MAN, BY THIS TIME, EVEN STUDENT ORCHESTRAS AREN'T AVAILABLE FOR A CHRISTMAS CONCERT.
...RANK AMATEUR'S SKETCH OF A SCORE INTO A SYMPHONY?
YOU WANT ME TO RENDER THIS...
WHAT?
AND THEN...
...THEY MET WITH COMPOSER, TOKUMITSU OKOCHI, HONORED IN 1987 WITH A CULTURAL AWARD.

GO HOME.
Shwap
OF COURSE, WE WOULD PAY YOU AS MUCH AS YOU DESIRE.
LOOK AT THIS PAINT-ING.
...WAIT.
THIS IS THE SEVENTH ONE WHO'S REJECT-ED US.
THE CMO'S FINALLY MADE A DEMAND TOO UNREASON-ABLE FOR US...
TAWARA CAT?!

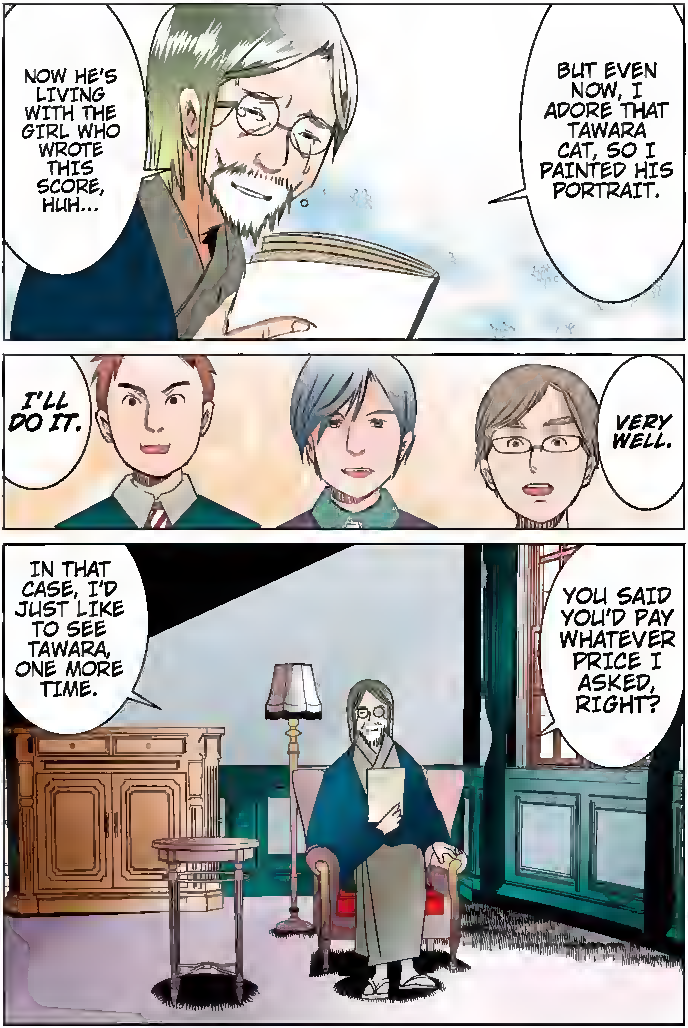

YOU KNOW OF THE TAWARA CAT?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
YES, THE GIRL WHO WROTE THIS SCORE OWNS THAT CAT.
THERE'S NO MISTAK-ING IT.
TH... THIS...
Bi
Shake
Bi
Shake

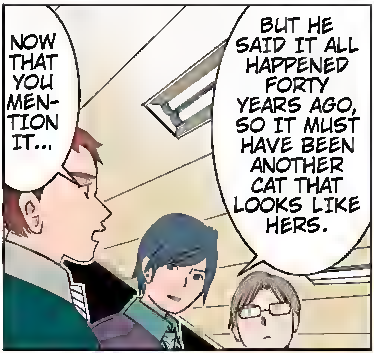
I WAS PLAYING THE PIANO AT A CABARET ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN TO MAKE ENDS MEET.
IT WAS A CHRISTMAS FORTY YEARS AGO. I COULD NEVER FORGET.
...BUT IN THE GAPS IN THE PROGRAM...
I PLAYED POPULAR SONGS, CHRIST-MAS SONGS...
BUT THOSE SONGS WERE NEVER ONCE GREETED BY APPLAUSE.
...I QUIETLY PLAYED MY OWN SONGS.
きゃはははは
Hahahaha
いやーんやだぁー
Ugh! This is so bad.

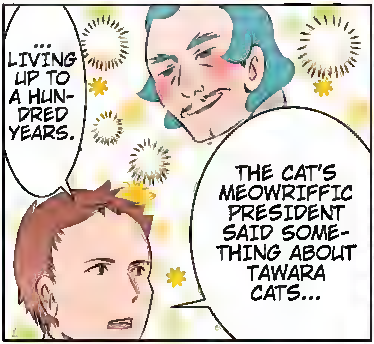

I FOUND MY JOB AS A COMPOSER AND GOT MARRIED...
FROM THEN ON, THE TAWARA CAT LIVED WITH ME FOR A YEAR... TWO...

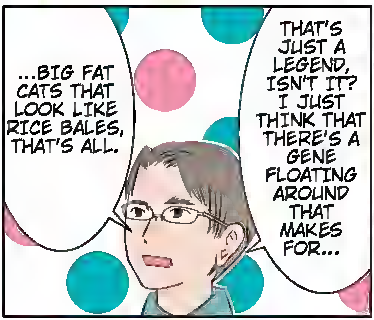

HE PROBABLY FELT THAT HIS JOB BRINGING LUCK TO A SAD HUMAN WAS OVER.
AT SOME POINT, HE DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE.

AFTER WORK, I TRIED TO BURY MY LONELINESS AND DESPAIR BY DRINKING CHEAP LIQUOR AND ENDED UP PASSING OUT ON A STREET CORNER.
Snore
THOUGH I SHOULD HAVE FROZEN TO DEATH IN THE SNOW, I WOKE TO FIND THE TAWARA CAT NEXT TO ME.

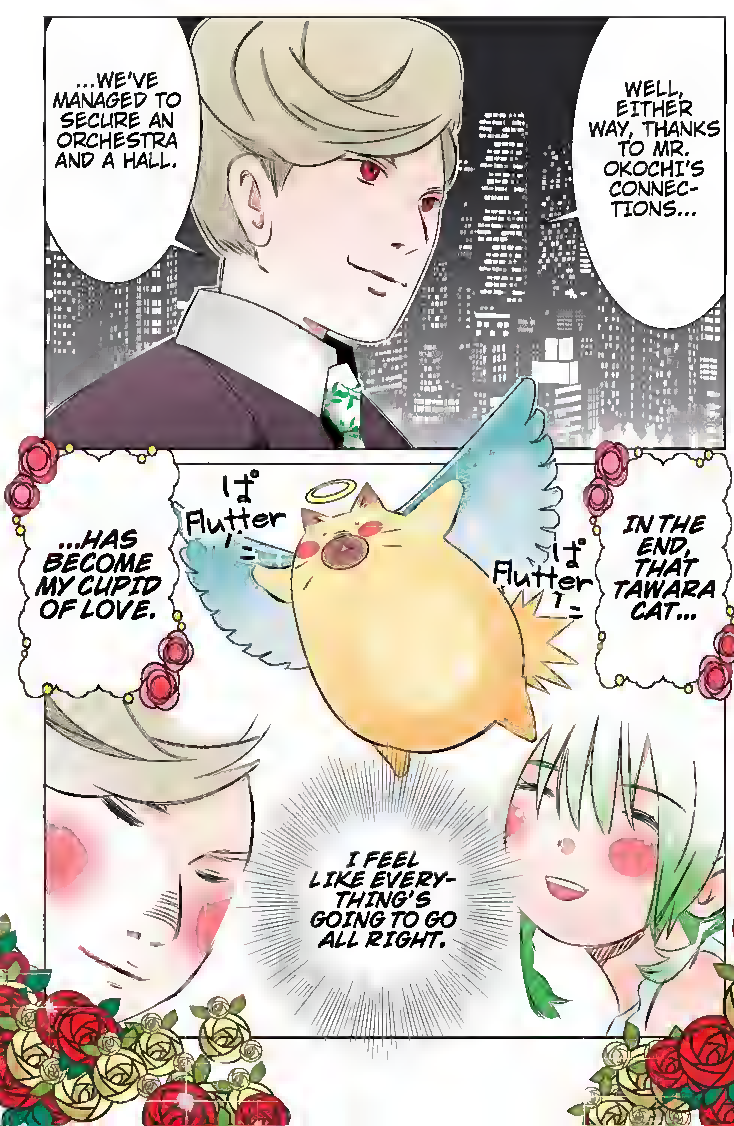

NOW HE'S LIVING WITH THE GIRL WHO WROTE THIS SCORE, HUH...
BUT EVEN NOW, I ADORE THAT TAWARA CAT, SO I PAINTED HIS PORTRAIT.
I'LL DO IT.
VERY WELL.
IN THAT CASE, I'D JUST LIKE TO SEE TAWARA, ONE MORE TIME.
YOU SAID YOU'D PAY WHATEVER PRICE I ASKED, RIGHT?

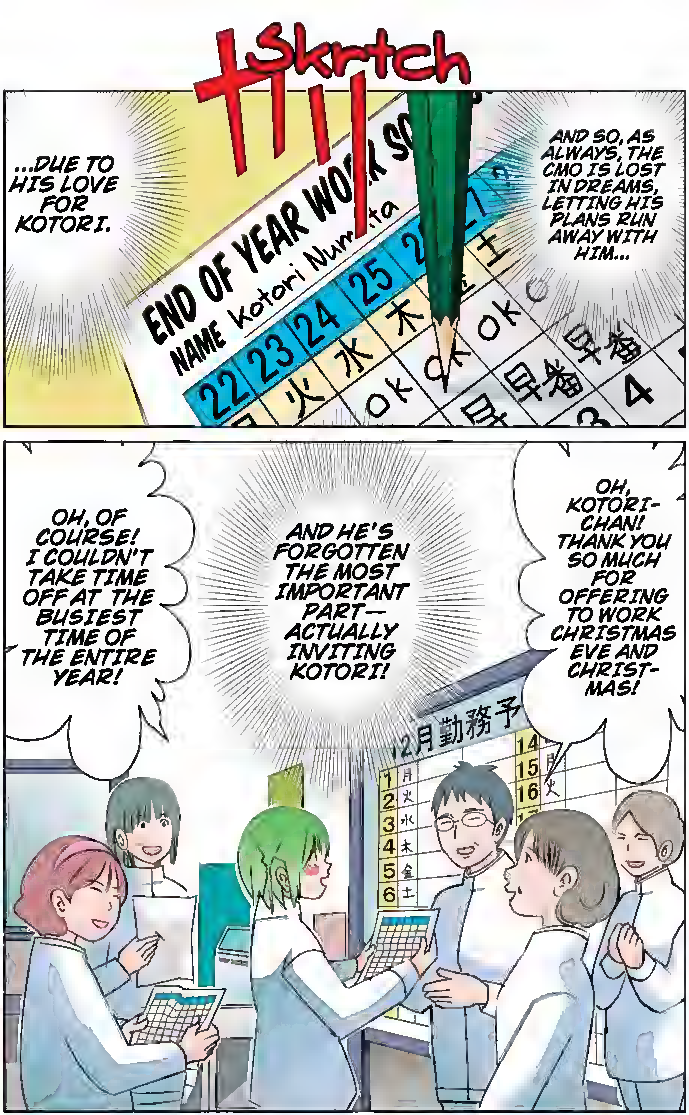

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
BUT HE SAID IT ALL HAPPENED FORTY YEARS AGO, SO IT MUST HAVE BEEN ANOTHER CAT THAT LOOKS LIKE HERS.


...LIVING UP TO A HUNDRED YEARS.
THE CAT'S MEOWRIFFIC PRESIDENT SAID SOMETHING ABOUT TAWARA CATS...


...BIG FAT CATS THAT LOOK LIKE RICE BALES, THAT'S ALL.
THAT'S JUST A LEGEND, ISN'T IT? I JUST THINK THAT THERE'S A GENE FLOATING AROUND THAT MAKES FOR...

SO TOKUMITSU OKOCHI HAD A CONNECTION TO THE TAWARA CAT... I HAD NO CLUE.


...WE'VE MANAGED TO SECURE AN ORCHESTRA AND A HALL.
WELL, EITHER WAY, THANKS TO MR. OKOCHI'S CONNEC-TIONS...
...HAS BECOME MY CUPID OF LOVE.
ぱ Flutter
ぱ Flutter
IN THE END, THAT TAWARA CAT...
I FEEL LIKE EVERY-THING'S GOING TO GO ALL RIGHT.


Skrtch
END OF YEAR WORK SC
NAME Kotori Numata
...DUE TO HIS LOVE FOR KOTORI.
AND SO, AS ALWAYS, THE CMO IS LOST IN DREAMS, LETTING HIS PLANS RUN AWAY WITH HIM...
OH, OF COURSE! I COULDN'T TAKE TIME OFF AT THE BUSIEST TIME OF THE ENTIRE YEAR!
AND HE'S FORGOTTEN THE MOST IMPORTANT PART— ACTUALLY INVITING KOTORI!
OH, KOTORI-CHAN! THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR OFFERING TO WORK CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRIST-MAS!
12月勤務予

YET AGAIN, THE CMO IS OFF IN HIS OWN WORLD.
BUT CHRISTMAS EVE IS COMING.... NEXT TIME!